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According to the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA): *“About one-third of the adult homeless population have served their country in the Armed Services. Current population estimates suggest that about 154,000 veterans (male and female) are homeless on any given night and perhaps twice as many experience homelessness at some point during the course of a year.”*

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority 2007 Homeless Count, indicates there are approximately 17,463 homeless veterans in the Los Angeles Continuum of Care (LACoC). The LACoC includes all areas of the County except for the cities of Long Beach, Glendale and Pasadena, and includes an estimated 68,608 homeless people.

The VA’s “CHALENG 2006 Survey” estimates that there are 21,424 homeless veterans, and 5,825 chronically homeless veterans in the Greater Los Angeles area.

On April 16, 2008, VA Secretary James B. Peake announced that the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the VA will provide supportive housing for an estimated 10,000 homeless veterans through a new \$75 million, *“HUD’s Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Program (HUD-VASH).”* This

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significant supportive housing program will match HUD Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers with VA supportive services and case management.

New York City and the Greater Los Angeles area have received the largest number of HUD-VASH vouchers. Eight hundred forty HUD-VASH vouchers have been allocated to the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles. An additional 70 HUD-VASH vouchers have also been granted to the Housing Authority of the City of Long Beach. It is anticipated that a new allocation of 10,000 HUD-VASH vouchers will be funded in 2008-2009. With more than 17,463 homeless veterans spread throughout the 88 cities of the County of Los Angeles, the County must pursue region-wide opportunities to access the HUD-VASH vouchers.

**WE, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Executive Director of the Community Development Commission / Housing Authority:

1. Diligently pursue an allotment of HUD-VASH vouchers during the next round of allocations.
2. Provide monthly status reports on the efforts to secure HUD-VASH vouchers for homeless veterans throughout the County of Los Angeles.